CONCLUDING THE CASE.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY HELD THREE SESSIONS YESTERDAY.

Colonel Jones Under Fire of Cross-Examination for Six Hours—Counsel Arguing the Case—Expect Decision Monday.

When the morning session of the third day of the court of inquiry opened at the regimental armory yesterday there was a little discussion as to the reading of the minutes of the previous sessions, but no action was taken.

Mr. Meredith then stated that the papers Colonel Jones referred to in his letter of December 1st had not been found, but that he had received a communication from Colonel Nalle, with copies of all the papers involved in the case.

Colonel Jones then stated that he made an effort, upon the receipt of Colonel Nalle's letter, to find the papers in question, and succeeded in finding the proceedings of a court-martial held August 1, 1894, to try the Mayo case. The finding was the dishonorable discharge of the accused. He was unable to find the charges. The paper stated that it was a general court-martial, and Second-Lieutenant R. K. Paynter, of Company F, was the judge-advocate.

After some discussion among counsel the court decided to request the Governor to telegraph to brigade headquarters for the papers in the DePriest case, but this decision was finally reconsidered, and it was then agreed to settle the point in question by calling Captain Gasser, who happened to be in court, again to the stand.

Captain Gasser stated that in the DePriest case the question was raised as to the power of Colonel Jones to appoint the court, and the question was overruled on account of irregularities in the charges. The record of that court was forwarded to Colonel Jones.

ABOUT GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL.

A good deal of delay was caused by the examination of orders and other papers, and the proceedings dragged along wearily during the morning session. Colonel Jones, when cross-examined by Captain Anderson, stated that when he first took command of the regiment general courts-martial were ordered by his authority, but he did not know whether he received his orders through Major Evans or through headquarters. The sergeant-major was instructed to keep records of every order that reaches the regiment from brigade headquarters. He had no recollection of asking General Anderson, while brigadier-general, for the issuing of such an order. After considering the orders issued Colonel Jones was made to say that he considered he had the authority of ordering general courts-martial under General Order No. 3, which provides for "courts-martial." He thought that sections 1 and 4 gave him that authority. Under that order he thought a colonel had the power to order a general court-martial, or a regimental court-martial, or a company court. The character of the case and the kind of the jurisdiction would guide him in selecting the adjectives for the court. He used the word general for the purpose of defining the jurisdiction. He did not have any intention to refer to such a court trials of commissioned officers, but only offences of enlisted men. He did not think that in doing so he implied a new meaning of the word "general," which, under the articles of war, gives the power of trying commissioned officers. A general court appointed by him would only consider offences which minor courts did not reach. He had not considered, and did not now, that he had the right to appoint any court to try commissioned officers.

Colonel Jones repeated his testimony of the previous day when asked by the Court that he had made a mistake when he appointed more than eight members on such a court, and as soon as the Governor called his attention to this mistake he corrected it. After long deliberations and discussions, witness said he believed that General Order No. 3 was in accord with section 303 of the Code of Virginia, and not in conflict. Article 72 of the Articles of War refers to the appointment of general courts-martial. He considered that General Order No. 3 was a State regulation, and not in conflict with the Articles of War, and, under Articles 72 and 73, without General Order No. 3, any other regulation in existence the colonel of a regiment was not allowed to order a general court-martial, but he did not see anything in the articles forbidding such ordering.

The court then took a recess until 3:30 P. M.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session opened promptly at the appointed hour and Colonel Jones resumed the witness stand. Before he proceeded, however, Captain Anderson stated that he had been informed that Major W. M. Evans, who was formerly assistant Adjutant-General, could swear that general courts-martial in the past were ordered by Colonel Jones through brigade headquarters. The court decided that Major Evans should be heard on the subject, and he was summoned forthwith.

Colonel Jones, in resuming his testimony, said that he had no recollection of appointing a field-officers' court-martial in the case of Private Wilson, of Company F, who was charged with being intoxicated at the Exposition grounds, and was subsequently discharged. When he appointed, under General Order No. 3, the general court-martial whose members were subsequently censured, he forwarded the papers to Colonel Nalle, as the higher authority, because the question as to his appointing power had been raised. He understood from Colonel Nalle's letter that he should appoint the court under General Order No. 3. He was not prepared to say that he did the officers a grave injustice in his letter to Colonel Nalle. He thought the Mayo case was the first one tried after the endorsement of Colonel Nalle under which the court had been appointed. The Mayo case was tried by the first court which had been ordered by Colonel Jones. The statement made by him in his letter of December 1st, which he made from memory, without having the papers before him, might be inaccurate. He had no intention or desire to do his officers an injustice. He made the best statement at the time his memory enabled him to do. He believed the instructions from Colonel Nalle to him were to appoint courts-martial for the trial of enlisted men in the regiment, and he thought his later communication would bear him out in this statement.

HE MIXED UP THE NUMBERS.

He said that when he ordered a general court-martial of thirteen he must have mixed up together the number provided for in the Articles of War with that provided for in General Order No. 3. When the court was ordered that sat on November 27th, it was done under the order of witness, and with the instruction of Colonel Nalle to continue to do so. The sergeant-major issued orders by order of witness, and for which the latter was responsible, but he could not issue orders to commissioned officers. The latter were issued through the adjutant.

Witness stated that Captain Anderson declined to state his objections in writing, but did not hear him say he would post the judge-advocate as to his views relating to the legality of the court. He did not release Captain Anderson from serving on the court, because he thought an officer should, as a matter of discipline, obey the ruling of a superior officer, unless he was ready to take an appeal.

Witness stated repeatedly that he had never had any doubt as to his right of appointing general courts-martial. The first information he received in regard to the action of the court on November 27th was when the proceedings were submitted to him, on December 1st. The members of the court who voted against its illegality were, as he was informed subsequently by Captain Cunningham, Lieutenants Haverty and Russell, of Company B.

At the meeting on December 10th he read to the officers a portion of the letter of the Adjutant-General, which referred to the direction of the Governor. It was to his mind a serious matter to question the authority of an officer in the manner that the court did in regard to the appointing power. He considered that a directing of his authority, instead of the reference of the papers, calling his attention to the fact. This was his opinion of the matter at the time. He believed that one or more of the members, when they took the oath, did not intend to truly try the case, but to raise the objection afterwards.

When asked whether he meant that he thought these officers intended to violate their oaths, witness declined to answer categorically. He was, however, loth to believe that the officers intended to do wrong. He had no intention to bring any charge; he only gave the impression made on his mind.

WANTED A POSITIVE ANSWER.

Captain Anderson then moved that witness be required to give a positive answer as to whether he thought the officers intended to violate the law. Witness then thought that the intention of the officers was to form the court and then decide that it was illegal, instead of to go on trying the case. He did not desire to cast any reflection upon their integrity by his language.

The purpose of calling the officers together, witness said, was to get further information, the proceedings being the only thing before him. His idea was to secure all possible information and statements so as to be able to settle forever all the discussion that had been going on for at least two years in regard to the appointing of courts-martial. He would have answered the questions of the officers at that meeting, but had not made up his mind clearly, and the attitude of the officers impressed him at the time that any answer on his part would not have been of any avail. He, therefore, did not say anything in reply. He did not return the papers to the court, because, in his opinion, that would not have settled the matter finally.

There were only the army regulations in existence, especially as to courts-martial, that could be easily used as a guidance for officers to act when they did not have sufficient experience. In his opinion an officer should not obey an order which he receives which is absolutely illegal, and he runs the risk then of being court-martialed.

Witness did not desire to answer the question as to whether, with the light of the investigation before him, he was still of the opinion that the officers should be censured for their conduct.

Captain Anderson stated, upon a question asked by Colonel Meredith, that Lieutenant Carbang appeared before the court on the previous evening upon a telegram sent him by direction of Captain Anderson, asking him to stop over on his way to Washington for the purpose of testifying.

MAJOR EVANS ON THE STAND.

Major W. M. Evans next testified that, as assistant Adjutant-General, during the seven years of his term of office every paper was filed that went through the office. General courts-martial had been ordered by the brigadier-general upon the applications of commanders of the regiments, but he was not prepared to say whether there were any for the First, Second or Third Regiment, but there certainly were two for the Fourth Regiment. However, all these papers were matters of record. The general custom and usage was, according to his recollection, that these courts were ordered by the brigade commander. The law under which the courts were ordered were the army regulations and customs of service. He did not think that a general court-martial could be ordered under General Order No. 3.

This ended the testimony on both sides, and the question as to argument came up, and Captain Tomlin said he preferred to have briefs submitted by counsel. Captain Anderson took the ground that counsel on the other side had no right to submit a brief nor make any oral argument. In support of his statement he submitted as authority passages of Winthrop's Military Law.

The recorder next stated his position. He gave an authority where an accuser appeared before a court of inquiry and was allowed to submit an argument. As far as he could gather from the light that the existing cases afforded, both sides should be allowed to make arguments, the recorder reserving the right to close the case, if he thought the facts had not been sufficiently brought out.

The Court stated that, in view of all circumstances and in the absence of authorities to the contrary, it was decidedly of the opinion that Captain Anderson should open the argument, to be followed by counsel on the other side, and that Captain Anderson should close the case. Should the Court deem it necessary, the recorder would subsequently be called upon to address the court.

It was agreed that counsel of Colonel Jones might divide the time allowed between them, and it was decided that Captain Anderson should have two hours for his side and Colonel Jones' counsel one hour and a half between them. The court then took a recess until 8 o'clock.

BEGINNING THE ARGUMENT.

At 8:10 P. M. the court reconvened, and without any further delay Captain Anderson started in to sum up the case for his side. He made a very able argument, and in concise form brought out the points and the reason why he thought the petitioning officers, who were members of the court, should not be censured. He stated that any court of justice had a perfect right to inquire whether or not it had been legally constituted. The officers of the court did their duty, as they understood the law, and if they made an error in law they could not be censured for it. Persons who sat in an illegally consituted court became themselves liable for the action of the court.

In reference to the proper procedure, Captain Anderson quoted from Winthrop to the effect that the members of the court must be legally appointed. When Colonel Jones received the proceedings of the court, instead of securing information in the matter he at once wrote his letter to the commander of the brigade, and he only asked, apparently, for information after he had censured the officers. Besides, Captain Anderson said, he had been unable to think of any information which Colonel Jones did not already have. Had Colonel Jones known his duty, which the record showed he did not at the time, he would at once have returned the papers.

Captain Anderson suspended after forty minutes and was followed by Lieutenant Charles Gerhardt, who first explained his position, and stated that as an army officer he could not afford to state anything that he could not prove. He thought the officers had acted from the best motives, but they had made an error, and he also thought that Colonel Jones was right in most respects. Counsel then went on to speak of general courts martial, which, he said, were not really courts, but executive agencies. He told the officers of the First Regiment last summer that a colonel could not appoint a general court martial. Article No. 72 could not be considered, for it did not apply to Virginia. The only courts martial used in times of peace were summary and general courts. The difference between general and minor courts consisted of the degree of punishment. If Colonel Jones had retarded justice by not appointing courts under general order No. 3 he would himself have been derelict of duty.

Lieutenant Gerhardt then quoted numerous passages from Winthrop, Ives and Murray, which he thought had reference to the case.

MR. MEREDITH SPEAKS.

Mr. Meredith followed with an intermission of a few minutes. He gravely criticised the language of Captain Anderson, which he thought might be considered as an indication of what was said on the night of December 10th. The question first to be settled by this court was whether the position of the officers on November 27th was correct, and then the question would arise, what the Colonel should have done?

In speaking on General Order No. 3, Mr. Meredith referred to the Acts of the Assembly of '70-71, where Chapter 16 set forth that each company should make such laws and regulations as it saw fit. This showed how great the disinclination of the Legislature had been to follow the articles of war. Article No. 72 did not apply to Virginia, and there was now no way of calling a general court-martial. It would have been better to stand by the laws of '70-71, when regulations could be made, than to tie the hands by allowing general courts-martial only to be called by the Governor. If any one disputed the correctness of Section 374, there could be any one of two reasons for it—ignorance or insubordination. He did not assume that the counsel of the other side intended to commit insubordination, but he feared that he was too fond of his own opinion. This section had been thrown out by a slight omission of the clerk who engrossed the act.

For nine years orders had been issued under this section without having been considered illegal, and now they all should be declared void.

Section 374 read as follows:

Section 374. How courts martial and courts of inquiry appointed.—Courts martial and courts of inquiry shall be appointed, organized and conducted as prescribed in the State regulations, as provided in this chapter for the government of Virginia Volunteers. Their form of procedure and record shall conform to that of like courts in the United States army.

Mr. Meredith said he did not think that any officer would accept the plea of ignorance if a court passed a resolution declaring itself illegally constituted.

The next thing to be considered, counsel said, was as to whether Colonel Jones was authorized to call the officers together on the evening of December 10th. In speaking of how general courts martial had been appointed in the past, the speaker said that even the Commander-in-Chief had appointed a general court martial of four members, including the judge advocate, to try a commissioned officer, who was afterwards cashiered. Under general order No. 3 the only limitation for the colonel was that he could only appoint courts for the trial of enlisted men; but for their trial he could appoint any kind of court.

DID NOT INTEND TO CENSURE.

Mr. Meredith said that Colonel Jones would certainly not have intended to censure the officers, because he told Captain Anderson he need not come that night if he had other engagements. The only thing that could be charged against Colonel Jones was that he had characterized the action of the officers as "gross" misconduct, which was called by the brigadier misconduct only. Counsel asserted that if Captain Anderson had not been present that evening the officers would not have taken the stand which they did.

By the law of Virginia the Governor had a right to issue regulations as to the constitution and organization of courts-martial, and for that reason General Order No. 3 was valid, and should not have been revoked by the Governor.

After a short recess Captain Anderson arose to make his closing remarks. He first apologized in case he should have gone too far in his language, but he did not think that his expressions had been stronger than the facts and the evidence justified. He did not think, however, counsel of the other side was justified to imply that there had been anything improper in Captain Anderson's conduct at the meeting on December 10th, as long as ten witnesses had testified in detail as to his conduct, that did not contain anything improper. Counsel took the ground that wherever the articles of war suited the convenience of the other side they were accepted as existing by right, while otherwise they were refuted.

Captain Anderson next paid his respects to the argument brought forth by Colonel Meredith, and in referring to the Acts of 1870-71, he said that it had been entirely supplanted by the Code of 1887, which was totally different, and drawn expressly for the purpose of making discipline in the militia more strict.

In regard to section 374, counsel said he had contended in his testimony that it had a powerful meaning as to what the Legislature meant in regard to courts-martial, and it was directly connected with section 303. He denied that he had pitched section 374 in the street, as asserted by Colonel Meredith. He thought Article No. 72 had been adopted in Virginia, and it was there for any emergency, while at present it could only be exercised by the Governor. In speaking of section 303, counsel said that it adopted the articles of war and allowed the commander-in-chief to issue such regulations as are not in conflict with the articles. Counsel said the articles of war had not only been adopted in Virginia, but the officers who appointed courts-martial were desirous of following them.

Suppose that Colonel Jones had acted under General Order No. 3, and it was legal, and section 4 did authorize a general court-martial, then the court on which the officers sat was an illegal one.

In closing Captain Anderson pointed out a few facts as they had been brought out as the taking of the evidence proceeded. He thought the evidence had overwhelmingly proved that the officers of the court did the very best they could, and what they considered to be their duty.

The court announced that it would take the matter under advisement, and probably reach a decision some time on Monday. In the meantime it would stand adjourned until Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

The following verses are evidence of the inspiration derived by a prominent lawyer who listened to the arguments brought forth during the evening session:

For courts I am partial,
And like a court-martial,
Provided due limits are kept;
But why in the devil
Should martial or civil
Law act as if men never slept?

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Interesting Facts About Richmond's Citizens and Other Matters.

Bishop Jackson is in the city.

Dr. J. W. Eggleston is out again, after an attack of pneumonia.

Mr. M. L. Van Doren has been appointed manager of the State convict farm.

The Atlanta Journal says: "Mr. McBurney, of Richmond, Va., is in the city for a few days."

Judge B. W. Lacy, of New Kent, who has been detained at home by sickness, has returned to the city.

Mrs. Charles T. O'Ferrall, who has been quite sick, was reported as considerably better yesterday.

Miss Lee Smith, of Venable street, who attended the marriage of a friend in Charlottesville, has returned home.

Miss Weber, of New York city, and Miss Bigley, of Staten Island, N. Y., are on a visit to Miss Nancy Pizzini.

Miss Ada Radford, of Lynchburg, is in the city, visiting her cousin, Miss Emmie Wherry, No. 312 south Third street.

Mrs. Robert Roulett, of Holyoke, Mass., is expected in Richmond in a few days on a visit to No. 109 east Grace street.

Bishop Whittle will visit St. Paul's on March 29th. The rector will preach this morning on the subject of Confirmation.

Mr. John H. Johnson, who resides at 2428 Venable street, and who has been quite sick for the past two months, is improving.

Mrs. William C. Armitage, of No. 7 north Twenty-ninth street, will leave in a few days to visit relatives and friends in Chester, Pa.

The many friends of Mr. Herman Nolte, of No. 516 east Marshall street, who has been quite sick, will be glad to learn that he is improving.

Mr. John Munn, an old resident of Richmond, died in Baltimore Thursday, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. Mr. Munn was well-known in this city.

Mr. F. C. Wilson and bride have returned to the city, after spending six weeks with friends in Smithfield, Va., and King and Queen county.

An alarm of fire was turned in at 3:[illegible] yesterday afternoon. It was caused by the burning of a mantle in a house at 611 east Broad street. Damage slight.

Major Poe will oppose the addition of ten men to the police force, as provided in Mr. Wallerstein's resolution in the Council, which has been referred to the Police Commissioners. The chief holds that there is no real necessity for an increase of the force under the present organization, and if any change is made it ought to be fifty men.

Right Rev. A. Van De Vyver left on last Friday for New York city, accompanied by Right Rev. Bishop Gordon, of Kingston, Jamaica, and the Very Rev. William O'B. Pardon, S. J. Right Rev. Bishop Gordon was entertained by Mr. John M. Higgins whilst here. He celebrated mass on Thursday morning at the cathedral. The Right Rev. Bishop will visit other northern cities before he returns.

CANNOT FIND THE WILL

IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE LATE C. E. WHITLOCK MADE ONE.

But Since His Death No One Has Been Able to Find the Paper, and It is Presumed That He Destroyed It.

When the sad death of the late C. E. Whitlock took place several weeks ago, there was considerable speculation as to the probable disposition of his estate, said to be worth $450,000.

It was taken for granted that a man of such large wealth and well-known precise business methods would have made a will.

Indeed, it was known that he had made a will in which his sisters and brothers were beneficiaries, but since his death no will has been found, and he either destroyed it or placed it where it cannot be brought to the light of day, and the entire estate is likely to go to his wife and children, as provided by the law of the land.

MADE A WILL.

Mr. Whitlock, it is said, made a will some years ago, when he had a severe illness, in which a different disposition was made of his property, and it is an open secret that some of his near relatives are much disappointed that they did not receive legacies, as they knew of such a will and supposed it to be extant.

It is probable that Mr. Whitlock destroyed this will after his recovery and never made another.

His papers have been examined by the executor and family attorneys, but no paper of bequest was found.

A near connection of the family is quoted as saying that they experienced two surprises, the first being bequests from the late Robert Whitlock, and the last the failure to receive them from C. E. Whitlock, when they felt almost sure a will was in force in which they were all remembered.

TO MAKE A TEST CASE.

A Warrant for a Passenger Who Refused to Pay Two Fares.

Manager Selden, of the Richmond and Manchester street railway, met Policeman Redford on the street Thursday morning about 10 o'clock, and asked him to go down with him near the Byrd-street station, where two or three cars were blocked, to put a man off one of the cars. Policeman Redford went down with him, and, after ascertaining the facts in the case, refused to put the man off the car, but stated that he would arrest him if Manager Selden would swear out a warrant. According to information, it seems the facts in the case are about as follows: The man, whose name was given as S. B. Belzelstein, boarded an east Main street car, and asked for a transfer at south Seventh street for Manchester. The Manchester car was slow arriving, and Belzelstein walked on down south Seventh street, and boarded the car at Seventh and Cary streets. When the conductor came around for fare the passenger handed him the transfer, which the conductor refused to accept, and demanded the regular fare. The passenger refused to pay it. The car was stopped, and consequently several other cars were blocked up. Policeman Redford declared it did not come within his duties to put the man off the car, as such was the business of the conductor. The man remained on the car and went to Manchester. Manager Selden yesterday swore out a warrant for the arrest of Belzelstein, charging him with trespassing. This action was taken for the purpose of making a test case.

Junior Contest.

The galleries and every available spot in the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium was occupied yesterday afternoon by eager spectators, anxious to see the junior contest. The parents and friends of the boys were delighted with each exercise, and especially with the systematic manner in which the work is carried on in this department. The wand drill and class work deserves all the praise that was so enthusiastically given. The special exercises, which followed the contest, delighted those present. The following is a list of contestants and their standing:

Robert Morrissett	169
Percy Finney	168
J. Myers	161
Munford August	161
Robert Michaels	159
Garnett Lee	149
J. Gilman	146
F. Tinsley	146
Morris Howes	145
B. Harrison	144
Victor Menzel	144
W. Evans	142
A. Davis	136
L. Walford	136
J. Bolton	136
Kemper Ellyson	135
C. Boschen	134
W. Grimmell	133
C. Blanton	132
T. Hundley	128
M. Sydnor	128
F. Whybrow	128
B. Hobbs	127
W. Foster	124
A. Hartung	121
B. Newell	118
C. Page	117
W. Goddin	117
E. Miller	115
E. Glenn	111
J. Powell	111
W. Blanton	111
H. Deane	106
P. Bagby	105
G. Goodman	104
H. Foster	96
C. Riddick	95
A. Houff	89
A. Jacobs	89

Captain John Smith.

On next Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the hall of the House of Delegates, the second of the course of lectures to be under the auspices of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, will be delivered.

On this occasion Hon. William Wirt Henry will be the speaker. His subject will be: "Captain John Smith, and the Story of Jamestown," embracing the period from 1607 to 1616. Mr. Henry is too well known to Richmonders for any extended notice here. Sufficient to say the occasion promises to be one of rare enjoyment and valuable instruction to all interested in the good work which the association is doing.

Only Dead Drunk.

About 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the ambulance received a call to Seventh and Main streets. It was reported that a man had been killed. The surgeon found Henry Jackson lying on the pavement in a lifeless condition. He proved to be not dead, but drunk, and was removed to his home, near the City Gas Works.

Illustration of Dividends Paid by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Samuel Freedley, president of the Cardwell Machine Company, became insured in the above company October, 1880, on the FIFTEEN-YEAR ENDOWMENT PLAN for $2,500, at an annual premium of $179.43.

The results on this policy are shown in the following letter from Mr. Freedley:

Office of
The Cardwell Machine Co.,
Richmond, Va., Nov. 13, 1894.

Messrs. John B. Cary & Son, City:

Gentlemen,—I am in receipt of your favor of the 6th instant, with statement giving the record of the fifteen-year endowment policy which I have in the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, showing that the cost of this policy to me was two thousand and seventy-three dollars and twenty-eight cents ($2,073.28), for which you agree to pay me twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500) at the maturity of the policy, October 26, 1895, with an additional dividend estimated at about fifty-eight dollars, thus reducing the cost to $2,015.28, and showing a profit of $484.92, exclusive of insurance for fifteen years.

The result of this policy is entirely satisfactory to me, and I hope you may be able to do a large business in our city.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) SAMUEL FREEDLEY.

For further information in regard to the Northwestern apply to
JOHN B. CARY & SON,
General Agents, Richmond, Va.

JUST TEN YEARS

SINCE A REMARKABLE HAPPENING.

An Interesting Interview With A Prominent Commercial Traveller.

The newsgatherer on his daily search for items of interest often comes across happenings of more than passing note. It was during a recent conversation with Mr. A. H. Cransby, the well-known commercial traveller, with the Cochran Lumber Company, that a reporter of the *Commercial* learned of a wonderful case. Mr. Cransby is well known in Memphis and surrounding country, and now resides at 158 Kerr street.

"Just ten years ago," said he, "my wife noticed a small lump in her breast. She thought nothing of it, but it increased in size rapidly, and soon broke through the skin, and commenced to discharge. She was put under treatment of the best physicians, but they very soon found that they could do her no good, and simply prescribed antiseptics to keep the place clean. Both her grandmother and aunt, by the way, had died with cancer, and when apprised of this fact, the doctors told me that they would not attempt to save her; that she was incurable. Although the cancer had by this time become deep seated, and her health very low, I had one of the most noted specialists of New York to treat her. After treating her awhile, this doctor admitted that the case was hopeless and further treatment useless. It is difficult to imagine how despondent we all became, knowing that she must die, and unable to give her any relief. I had spent over five hundred dollars with the best medical skill to be had, and felt that there was no further hope.

"One day I happened to read an advertisement of S. S. S., recommending that remedy for cancer, and in view of the failure of the most eminent physicians in the country, I confess I had little faith left in any human agency. However, I purchased a bottle of S.S.S., and to my delight, it seemed to benefit her; after she had taken a couple of bottles, the cancer began to heal, and astonishing as it may seem, a few bottles more cured her entirely. You can probably better understand how remarkable this cure was, when I explain that the cancer had eaten two holes in the breast two inches deep. These healed up entirely, and although ten years have elapsed, not a sign of the disease has ever returned, and we are assured of the permanence of the cure, which we at first doubted.

"I certainly regard S.S.S. as the most wonderful remedy in the world, and it is truly a God-send to those afflicted with this terrible disease. Yes sir," he concluded, "you may be sure that I shall always be grateful to that remedy, for without it my home would now be desolate and my children motherless."—*Memphis, Tenn., Commercial.*

An Excellent Showing.

The twenty-fifth annual statement of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia shows that company to be in a flourishing condition. The assets are nearly $1,000,000, while the insurance in force amounts to nearly $12,630,000. This is an increase over the preceeding year of $2,811,000. The number of policy holders is 102,507. A glance at the above figures shows that the company is one which not only merits, but which has the implicit confidence of the people. Its officers are business men of high capacity, and it is owing to their integrity and push that the company now occupies the high stand that it does.

The Majestic Steel Range is now used in over forty States by the best families everywhere; is cooking for millions of people; it improves the flavor of the food; everything cooked on them retains their natural flavor and juices. They heat more water and do it quicker than any other known process. They are sold for less money than any other first-class Range. Look out for the grandest cooking exhibit ever seen in the South.

CAUGHT WITHOUT FUNDS.

How Polk Miller Recently Had a Narrow Escape—A Poetical Commendation.

When Polk Miller went to Washington on the 11th of this month he was accompanied by his representative, Mr. Smith. After the recital Mr. Miller took a train for St. Louis via Cincinnati, where he was booked to appear on the 14th; Mr. Smith came back to Richmond, and thinking that Mr. Miller was fully supplied with the where-with-all to purchase transportation to St. Louis he brought with him the Washington receipts. Now it turned out that Polk had purchased a ticket some time previous to Cincinnati and had intended to buy another from Cincinnati to St. Louis when he arrived at the Ohio city, but in the hurry at Washington had forgotten to get the necessary funds from his manager. When the train pulled into Cincinnati he investigated the state of his finances preparatory to the purchasing of a ticket to St. Louis, and was almost paralyzed with astonishment to find that his entire resources were not sufficient to satisfy the claims of the railroad company, and at the same time to purchase supper and a sleeper. "I must take this train for St. Louis," said our great delineator, "and so I just have got to hustle about and wake up some scalper. After running about until I was nearly out of breath, I found a fellow who sold me a ticket, and by going without supper and sitting up all night in the smoker I got to St. Louis on time with seventy-five cents in my pocket. I invested twenty of that in a lunch and 50 more in a cab to take me to the residence where I was to be entertained, and at last we rolled up before a most palatial mansion in the swell part of the city, where I was welcomed most cordially as the Hon. Polk Miller, of Virginia. I was ushered into the grand parlors, and every facility for my comfort and convenience was placed at my disposal. A carriage drawn by two splendid thoroughbreds, with a footman, was at my service, and with the remainder of that seventy-five cents, a single, solitary nickel, the "Hon." Polk Miller, of Virginia, made his debut in Missouri's big town."

Mr. Miller says his reception in St. Louis at the Germania Theatre was magnificent, the house was decorated, everybody in the audience was in full dress, and the ladies under whose auspices he gave his recital cleared $1,200.

Mr. Miller will return from West Virginia on Tuesday next, and will be heard in his entire recital next Friday night at the Academy of Music. Governor O'Ferrall will occupy one of the boxes and Mr. John P. Branch the other. Mr. Miller's friends are vigorously at work, and there will undoubtedly be an immense crowd to hear Polk Miller on this occasion.

The following lines are from the pen of the famous Georgia poet whose writings appear daily in the Atlanta Constitution, and who is to the Georgia cracker dialect what James Whitcomb Riley is to the Hoosier dialect:

(To Polk Miller.)

Oh, the old Virginny nigger!
He's the happiest in the land,
An' he cuts the proper figger
When Polk Miller takes the stand!

When I hear his banjo playin'
I jest holler: "Let 'er roll!"
An' I don't care what it's sayin',
It's like Christmas to my soul!

Oh, the old Virginny nigger!
He's the happiest in the land;
But 'twould make a saint a jigger
When Polk Miller leads the band!

—FRANK L. STANTON.

The box-office sale will begin at the Academy to-morrow morning. As stated a large number of tickets have already been sold, but these will have to be exchanged at the box for reserved seats.

Shattered His Bicycle.

Professor F. W. Boatwright, who was recently chosen President of Richmond College, while riding down Broad street on his bicycle yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock, when near the corner of Second street, collided with a delivery wagon, damaging his wheel considerably. Mr. Boatwright was unhurt.

Miss Mildred York, of New York, is visiting her friend, Mrs. H. H. Cramer, at 906 east Clay street.